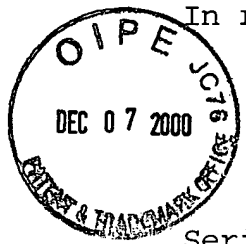


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

41
18/Amt M
12/13/00
C. McKinney



In re application of:

WARREN M. FARNWORTH
ALAN G. WOOD
TRUNG TRI DOAN
DAVID R. HEMBREE

Art Unit: 2858

Serial No.: 08/838,452

Filing Date: April 7, 1997

Examiner: Karlsen, E.

Title: TEST APPARATUS FOR TESTING
SEMICONDUCTOR DICE INCLUDING
SUBSTRATE WITH PENETRATION
LIMITING CONTACTS FOR MAKING
ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS
(AS AMENDED)

Attorney Docket No.: 91-62.17

RECEIVED

DEC 12 2000

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
SUBMITTED WITH CPA APPLICATION
UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(d)
December 7, 2000**

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
BOX CPA
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted with a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) being filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d).

In response to the Office Action dated August 7, 2000 having a statutory period for response set to expire on November 7, 2000, but extended for 30 days by the enclosed Petition For Extension of Time until December 7, 2000, please amend the captioned case as follows: